

~~SECRET~~

NSC BRIEFING

28 January 1959

ITALY

- I. Final blow to shaky Fanfani government was resignation of Democratic Socialist Labor Minister on 24 January. President Gronchi is now holding consultations about successor government.
- II. Government crisis may be protracted. *Fanfani has been asked to try again.*
 - A. President Gronchi and Christian Democratic left wing apparently prefer solution whereby Christian Democrats' parliamentary base would be broadened through arrangement for support by Nenni Socialists.
 - B. Right-wing of Christian Democratic party would oppose such a rapprochement.
 - C. If impasse reached in trying to form coalition government temporary solution might be minority all-Christian Democratic government which would have to seek ad hoc support from left or right.
 - D. Another possibility is Gronchi might call for national elections either this year or next.
- III. In any event, no important changes in ~~the~~ Italian relations ^{with US & NATO} are expected.
 - A. Missile base negotiations might be delayed but would probably go through eventually.

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Italian Chamber of Deputies

Communists	140
Mass Socialists	84
Democratic Socialists	22
Community Movement	1
Republicans	6
Christian Democrats	273
South Tyroleans	3
Valdostan Union	1
Liberals	18
National Monarchists	11
Popular Monarchists	13
Neo-Fascists	24
<u>Total:</u>	596